

March 7, 1980

LB 887, 863A

will try to explain it. Last year we passed a bill and referred to Section 15 of LB 285 that exempted any new program from the limit of 7%. Well what has happened, the Little Blue could be interpreted two ways, that the NRD itself, the Little Blue is not a new program but after this LB 285, after LB 285 was passed the Little Blue was put under control. Now the question was, is this a new program or is it not? I asked the question of the Attorney General's office and you can refer to the opinion on page 806 in the Journal. The legal counsel for the Little Blue raised the question, could they legally tax this quarter of a mill that the other NRDs under control could tax. The Attorney General took the position that it was a new program in that it took a new act to go under control, therefore, it is his opinion that they would be exempt the first year. Now the bill is a simple bill. It merely provides that it is a new program and they can assess the same quarter of a mill to all the other two NRDs that are under control. I move the advancement of the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vickers, do you wish to speak to the bill?

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. Chairman and fellow members, I rise to support LB 887 and Senator Kremer I think pointed out the need very well. The only point I would like to make is that if we are going to give the local people the control over their destiny in the preservation of precious resources such as the water and the ability to do that also rests in their ability to raise the funds to adequately administer the controls that they are administering, then the need for 887 should be very evident to the members of this body and I would certainly urge their support of it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the advancement of 887 to E & R for review. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to advance, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried. The bill is advanced. The next bill, LB 915. The Clerk has got a couple items to read in and then we will be ready.

CLERK: Mr. President, just a moment, a new bill, 863A by Senator Beutler. (Read LB 863A by title for the first time as found on page 1052 of the Legislative Journal.)